

February 28, 2019

David R. Nelson, M.D.

Interim Senior Vice President, Health Affairs

President, UF Health

J. Adrian Tyndall, M.D.

Interim Dean, UF College of Medicine

Folke H. Peterson Dean's Distinguished Professor

Michael G. Perri, Ph.D.

Dean, College of Public Health and Health Professions

Robert G. Frank Endowed Professor

Dear Drs. Nelson, Tyndall and Perri,

Established by Evelyn F. McKnight to Alleviate Memory Loss in the Aging.

At their February 2019, meeting of the McKnight Brain Research Foundation (MBRF), the trustees reviewed the 2018 Annual Report submitted by the University of Florida (UF) on the Age-Related Memory Loss (ARML) program and the Center for Cognitive Aging and Memory Clinical Translational Research (CAM Center). The trustees also reviewed the 2018 Annual Reports on the McKnight Research Grant Program, the two McKnight Endowed Chairs, the William G. Luttge Lectureship and the UF Foundation (UFF) Endowment and Investment Report.

During the 2018 year, the trustees note the major changes in the leadership of the UF Health Center and the College of Medicine with the departure of Dr. David Guzick and Dr. Michael Good, respectively. The trustees look forward to meeting Dr. Nelson, the Interim Senior Vice President for UF Health and Dr. Adrian Tyndall, Interim Dean of the College of Medicine at the inter-institutional meeting of the research scientists from the four McKnight Brain Institutes, hosted by the UF in April 2019.

The trustees are pleased to observe the relocation and operational structure of the Cognitive Aging and Memory Clinical Translational Research Center (CAM Center) into the MBI has been successful with documented growth, development and research productivity. The trustees also note the recruitment of Dr. Demetrius Maraganore to advance the clinical translational research emphasis on successful cognitive and brain aging. As a clinical research scientist and professor in the Department of Neurology with affiliation with the CAM Center and collaborations throughout Nina Ellenbogen Raim, M.D., J.Dthe UF, there is the opportunity for tremendous success in advancing the understanding of age related cognitive decline and preservation of cognitive health.

The composite faculty within the Age Related Memory Loss (ARML) Core research group located within the McKnight Brain Institute continue to be productive in research grant support, Madhav Thambisetty, M.D., PhD. publications and receipt of research awards from the University of Florida in recognition of distinguished records of research productivity.

> The trustees express their collective appreciation for your support and efforts to continue to advance the research initiatives supported by the MBRF to advance the understanding and alleviation of age related cognitive decline and memory loss.

## **Executive Director**

Amy Porter Alexandria, VA aporter@mcknightbrf.org 202-302-9849

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Sincerely,

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Please address all correspondence to